

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DHA-02 IO-13

LAB-04 SIL-01 /095 W

-----041946Z 126066 /72

R 041000Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5564

UNCLAS LUSAKA 1198

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ZA

SUBJ: PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S MAY DAY SPEECH

1. IN A MAY DAY SPEECH WHICH HE REFERRED TO AS AN INSPECTION, PRESIDENT KAUNDA CRITICIZED SHORTAGES, LAZINESS, CORRUPTION AND RACISM AND SAID THAT THE GET RICH QUICK ATTITUDES OF WORKERS IN ZAMBIA HAD TO CHANGE OR "THE COUNTRY WOULD BE RUINED."

2. THE PRESIDENT SAID HE HAD GIVEN A LIST OF 12 ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES TO RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET AND MONIES HAD BEEN ALLOCATED FOR THEIR PURCHASE. THIS MEANT THERE SHOULD NO LONGER BE ANY SHORTAGES OF THESE GOODS, AND EXCUSES FOR SHORTAGES WOULD NO LONGER BE TOLERATED. PERMANENT SECRETARIES AND PARASTATAL OFFICIALS WOULD HAVE TO ANSWER TO THE PUBLIC AND PARTY FOR ANY DEFICIENCIES IN SUPPLYING THE PEOPLE WITH THESE ESSENTIAL GOODS.

3. LAMBASTING MANAGEMENT AND LABOR ALIKE, PRESIDENT KAUNDA RAN THROUGH A LITANY OF EXAMPLES OF CORRUPTION AND DISHONESTY IN BOTH GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY. HE REFERRED TO CIGARETTE AND CAR THEFTS, ILLEGAL EXPORT OF GOODS IN SHORT SUPPLY TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES (WITHOUT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONING ZAIRE), STOLEN MEDICINES, AND CORRUPTION IN THE NATIONAL TRANSPORT CORPORATION. HE BLAMED  
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WORKERS FOR NOT REPORTING ABUSES AND SAID THAT THEY HAD TO REPORT SUCH CORRUPTION AND THEFT.

4. THE PRESIDENT ALSO ASKED FOR A REPORT FROM LABOR AND MANAGEMENT ON INSTANCES OF COMPANIES PRACTICING RACISM WARNING THAT IT WOULD NOT BE TOLERATED IN ZAMBIA. REFERRING TO RACISM DURING THE COLONIAL PERIOD HE SAID THAT ZAMBIA HAD FORGIVEN, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN.

5. WHILE THE TONE WAS PRIMARILY ECONOMIC, KAUNDA DID CONFIRM THAT THERE WOULD BE GENERAL ELECTIONS NEXT YEAR BUT DID NOT SPECIFY A DATE. HE WARNED POLITICIANS AGAINST CAMPAIGNING SAYING THAT THOSE WHO DID WOULD BE EXPELLED OR SUSPENDED FROM THE PARTY. HE ALSO WARNED THAT IAN SMITH WOULD SEND INFILTRATORS INTO ZAMBIA DURING ELECTIONS TO CAUSE CONFUSION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S MAY DAY SPEECH  
**TAGS:** EGEN, SOPN, ZA, (KAUNDA, KENNETH DAVID)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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